## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8736

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

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**EXDIS** 

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, EC, FR

SUBJECT: ARTICLE XXIV:6 - GOF INSTRUCTIONS TO PERMREP

REF: A. STATE 86686; B. PARIS 10292

- 1. THIS MESSAGE WILL CONFIRM TELEPHONE REPORT TO GLITMAN OF ITP. ECON/COM MIN WAS ABLE TO REACH BRUNET, DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, MFA, ON EVENING OF APRIL 29 TO FOLLOW UP CONVERSATION REPORTED REF B.
- 2. BRUNET REPLIED THAT OUR MESSAGE HAD BEEN CAREFULLY CONSIDERED BY THE INTERESTED FRENCH AGENCIES AND THAT THE GOF HAD REACHED THE FOLLOWING CONCLUSIONS: A) THE GOF HAD ALREADY MADE A SUBSTANTIAL EFFORT TO HELP US GET A SATISFACTORY SETTLEMENT OF ARTICLE XXIV:6 PROBLEM. ALTHOUGH IT WAS CONVINCED THE EC OWED THE U.S. NOTHING FOR ENLARGEMENT AND STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE EC DECISION CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT THE DECEMBER 13 OFFER WAS ITS FINAL WORD ON THE

SUBJECT, IT HAD NONETHELESS ACQUIESCED IN THE DECISION TO ALLOW THE COMMISSION TO REOPEN DISCUSSIONS WITH US. B) ALTHOUGH IT HAS PROBLEMS WITH ONE OR TWO ITEMS, THE GOF CAN ACCEPT THE COMMISSION'S IMPROVED OFFER WITH CERTAIN MINOR ADJUSTMENTS, WHICH HE COULD NOT SPECIFY, BUT IT CAN GO NO FURTHER THAN THIS. IF, AFTER HAVING INDICATED THAT THE OFFER WAS INSUFFICIENT, WE SHOULD RECONSIDER AND DECIDE WE COULD ACCEPT IT, THEN THE GOF WOULD URGE ITS PARTNERS TO ACCEPT IT, BUT IT COULD NOT TRY TO GET FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS IN THE OFFER. TO SEEK TO GO BEYOND THIS OFFER WOULD OPEN UP AN ENDLESS PROCEDURE WITH CHANCES OF GETTING ANYTHING MORE THAN MINUTE IMPROVEMENTS VIRTUALLY NIL.

- 3. BRUNET SAID THE COMMISSION'S LATEST OFFER HAD BEEN WORKED OUT AFTER LENGTHY DISCUSSION WITH U.S. REPRESENTATIVES. IT WAS A GOOD OFFER AND HE HOPED WE WOULD FIND IT POSSIBLE TO ACCEPT IT. HE WAS CONVINCED THAT THE OFFER COULD BE PRESENTED TO POLITICAL INTERESTS IN THE U.S. IN A WAY THAT WOULD WIN THEIR APPROVAL.
- 4. BRUNET CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT THE GOF WANTED THIS MATTER SETTLED QUICKLY. AS A RESULT OF SUCCESSIVE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE EC OFFER, THE POSITIONS OF THE TWO SIDES WERE VERY CLOSE. THEREFORE, THE GOF URGED US TO ACCEPT THE COMMISSION'S OFFER. BRUNET SAID THAT THIS, IN BRIEF, WAS THE POSITION WHICH THE FRENCH PERMREP HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO TAKE AT THE APRIL 29 MEETING IN BRUSSELS.
- 5. ECON/COM MIN REPLIED THAT HE KNEW HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD BE DISAPPOINTED BY THIS RESPONSE. WE HAD HOPED THAT OUR WILLINGNESS TO BE FORTHCOMING ON THE COGNAC QUESTION WOULD INDUCE A MORE FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE ON THE PART OF THE FRENCH. BRUNET REPEATED THAT THE GOF HAD GONE AS FAR AS IT COULD. IRWIN

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS, ARTICLE XXIV 6, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 30 APR 1974 Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:

Disposition Date: 28 MA Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a Disposition Reason: Disposition Remarks:

Document Number: 1974PARIS10419 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D740102-0778

From: PARIS

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974042/aaaaabpp.tel Line Count: 98

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION SS Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:

Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: A. STATE 86686; B. PARIS 10292
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 01 APR 2002

**Review Event:** 

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <11 JUN 2002 by golinofr>

**Review Markings:** 

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: ARTICLE XXIV:6 - GOF INSTRUCTIONS TO PERMREP

TAGS: ETRD, FR, GATT, EEC

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005